notifying the draft rules calling for public comments, based on the recommendations of the Central Committee for Food Standards (CCFS), and after holding wide consultations with all concerned Departments/Ministries and expert institutions.

Since this is an item of mass consumption, the process of enforcing quality control would require testing samples of packaged drinking water for all the chemical and microbiological parameters prescribed in the standards for this product which are felt necessary from the point of view of health.

(b) Fruit Juices and Soft Drinks are not under compulsory certification scheme of BIS. These are also covered under Fruit Products Order 1955, under which licenses are given to these products after sanitary conditions of the manufacturing units are checked. The routine checking of Fruit Juices and Soft Drinks is also carried out regularly under PFA Act, 1954 to ensure compliance with the parameters specified in the standards for these products.

(c) No, Sir. There is no separate provision for certification *etc.* for large scale or small scale units. The fixation of rate of marking fee by Bureau of Indian Standards is according to the quantum of production. Since the number of requirements to be tested for packaged drinking water are higher, the operative cost/testing charges are higher. However, efforts are being made by Bureau of Indian Standards to bring down the cost of testing by approving more test houses capable of testing the product.

Assigning quality control of bottled water to BIS

3051. SHRI KULDIP NAYYAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for assigning the job of quality control of bottled water to the Bureau of Indian Standards and not to Central Food and Technology Research Institute (CFTRI), Mysore;

(b) the reasons for requiring the makers of bottled water to pay exorbitant fee for making and for making it compulsory to use the ISI mark;

(c) the basis for calculating the marketing fee;

(d) the amount of marking fee expected from the Rs. 1,000 crore industry; and

(e) whether the Ministry have the authority to levy this charge?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) Central Food and Technology Research Institute (CFTRI), Mysore is an eminent Institute for food technology in the country, and one of its laboratories functions as an appellate laboratory or Central Food Laboratory under the Prevention of Food Adulteration (PFA) Act for any food product including samples of bottled water lifted under this Act. Compulsory certification by Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) of bottled water has been prescribed under the PFA Rules since BIS has the powers and the facility under the BIS Act 1986 and Rules 1987 (Certification Regulations 1988) to certify quality control of food products. This procedure is normally stipulated in the case of those products where it is felt necessary for quality of the product to be closely monitored.

(b) The fee for implementing the certification scheme is levied by BIS keeping in view the need to maintain continuous surveillance over the production centre and product by checking the infrastructure for manufacture through periodic visits to the units and by drawing and testing of samples, both from the production site as well as from the market.

(c) BIS has informed that the main basis for fixing the marking is the total cost of operation of licence, which is different for large scale and small scale units. Based on this a maximum marking fee is fixed. A unit rate is also fixed to calculate the marking fee according to the quantum of production where the amount chargeable per annum exceeds the minimum, then the total amount is charged on unit rate basis. The marking fee is charged primarily to recover the operating cost of the license which includes testing samples drawn from the factory and market, administrative cost of inspection, supervision *etc.* Where the number of parameters to be tested are high, as in this

case, the operative cost also increases proportionately. Efforts are on to bring down the cost of testing by approving more test houses (who are capable of testing the product) and also developing in house testing facilities which would bring down the overall marking fee.

(d) The amount of marking fee will depend on the number of Industries that obtain certification and the quantum of production. Hence an exact figure cannot be estimated at this juncture.

(e) The operation of the Certification Marks Scheme is covered under BIS act 1986 Rules 1987 (Certification Regulations 1988) under which the Bureau is empowered to charge a fee, (Chapter V, Clause 15(2).) of the BIS Act is reproduced below:

"The grant of renewal of the license under sub-section (1) shall be subject to such conditions and on payment of such fees as may be determined by regulations."

Disability and Mental Health

3052. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether WHO has decided to observe year 2001 as year of Mental Health, in view of the dramatic increase in mental disorders and it being a crises of the 21st century;

(b) whether, according to WHO reports, five out of ten leading causes of disability are mental health problems;

(c) if so, what are the prospective figures of disability in India; and

(d) what steps are being taken to avail the benefit of WHO schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. As per Report No. 393 of the National Sample Survey Organisation, the incidence rate of disability per 100,000 persons are: